JOURNAL

OF THE

New York Entomological Society.

Vol. XIV. SEPTEMBER, 1906. No. 3

Class I, HEXAPODA.

Order II, COLEOPTERA.

THE NORTH AMERICAN SPECIES OF THE GENUS NOTARIS GERM.

By F. H. Chittenden, Sc.D.,

Washington, D. C.

Notaris, Magazin der Entomologie, vol. II, p. 340, 1817.

In 1876, in The Rhynchophora of America North of Mexico (p. 163), LeConte placed two Erirhinines, *morio* Mann. and *punctipennis* Lec., in the genus *Erycus* Tourn.,* and they are thus classified in our catalogues and collections, notwithstanding the fact that European systematists have relegated *Erycus* to a subgenus under *Notaris* Germar, which latter was proposed in 1817.

The genus *Notaris* was defined by Stephens in 1831,† and more recently characterized by Faust.‡ Briefly, it contains those species of *Erirhinini* in which the prosternum is deeply emarginate on the anterior margin, the femora are moderately clavate and simple, and the postocular lobes are distinct and wide, the posterior tibiæ being feebly mucronate. The apical sutures of the second, third and fourth abdominal segments are very prominent. In the male the first and second are shallowly but widely concave and the apex of the fifth feebly. LeConte's characterization of *Erycus*, with two very small spines or spurs on the posterior tibiæ, does not hold for a species which will presently be described.

* Ann. Soc. Ent. de Belgique, vol. XVII, p. 92, 1874.

† Ills. Brit. Ent., Mandibulata, vol. IV, p. 81, 1831.

‡ Bull. Soc. Impériale Naturalistes Moscou, 1882, pp. 136–143.

SYNOPSIS OF SPECIES.

Subglabrous, shining, thorax sparsely punctate; elytral striæ moderately shallow, with small, closely-set punctures, N. W. ..... **æthiops** Fab.

Distinctly minutely pubescent; thorax densely coarsely punctate.

Rostrum coarsely punctate, subopaque; antennæ inserted in apical fourth, club as long as preceding four joints, last funicular joint transverse; elytral striæ coarsely deeply punctate, E. U. S. ..... **puncticollis** Lec.

Rostrum finely, more sparsely punctate, shining; antennæ inserted near middle, club shorter than preceding four joints, last funicular joint as long as wide; elytral striæ fine, Wyo., Col. ..... **wyomingensis** n. sp.

Notaris æthiops Fabricius.

Curculio æthiops Fabricius, Entomologia Systematica, vol. I, pt. 2, p. 405, 1792.
Erirhinus morio Mannerheim, Bul. Soc. Mosc., 1853, II, 240.
Eryeus morio LeConte, Proc. Am. Phil. Soc., 1876, p. 163.
Erirhinus æthiops Faust, Bul. Soc. Mosc., 1882, pp. 164–167.*

Easily distinguished from our other species by the characters of the table.

Length. — 6.0 mm.; width, 2.5 mm.

Habitat. — Sweden, Germany, boreal Europe and Siberia; Kadjak, Kenai, Wrangel, Alaska; Vancouver, Manitoba, Great Slave Lake, Canada (Hamilton).† In the National collection there are specimens from the following localities: Como, S. Wyo., alt. 8,000 ft.; Whitefish, L. S., Bear Paw Mt., Mon., and Leadville, Colo. (Hubbard & Schwarz). Evidently a truly circumpolar form.

Notaris puncticollis Lec

Eryeus puncticollis LeConte, Rhynch. N. A., Proc. Am. Phil. Soc., vol. XV, p. 163, 1876.

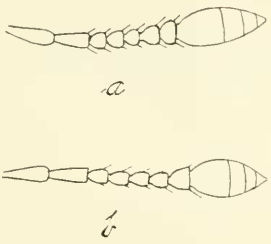
In describing the pubescence of the elytra LeConte mentions "a more conspicuous sutural transverse spot behind the middle." In many specimens this feature is not at all conspicuous, partly owing to easy abrasion. Where present these spots extend across the second and third interval. The fifth abdominal segment is much more finely and densely punctate than the others, and is less reflexed at apex.

Length. — 4.8–6.5 mm.; width, 2.3–3.0 mm.

Habitat. — "Middle and Western States and Lake Superior" (LeConte); New York and vicinity, April 17–26; October 21 (Juelich & Roberts); Buffalo, N. Y., June 15; Ithaca, N. Y., April 25; Chicago, Ill. (Chittenden); Whitefish Point, L. S.; Minnesota; Wisconsin; Detroit, Port Huron and Backwing, Mich.; Whitefish,

* The European literature is quite extensive and is not quoted at length.
† Tr. Am. Ent. Soc., 1894, p. 34.

L. S. (Hubbard & Schwarz); Wayne County, Ohio (Webster); Columbus, Ohio (Sanders).



Antennal characters of (*a*) *Notaris puncticollis*; (*b*) *N. wyomingensis*.

Notaris wyomingensis, new species.

Form similar to *puncticollis* Lec., but proportionately more slender; black, antennæ, tarsi and tibiæ rufo-piceous. Rostrum somewhat finely and sparsely punctate, not carinate, surface shining. Antennæ of ♀ inserted near middle of rostrum, of ♂ two-fifths from apex. Last funicular joint subtriangular, considerably larger than the preceding, as long as wide; club wide, not as long as preceding four joints. Thorax a little wider than long; sides rather strongly arcuate; surface coarsely densely, subrugosely punctate, sparsely covered with scale-like yellowish setæ, directed transversely, forming a dorsolateral fascia each side and leaving a median smooth line extending from apex about four-fifths to base. Elytra (♀) one-third or less wider than thorax; humeri rounded; striæ shallow, intervals densely punctate, sparcely pubescent, consisting of very short scale-like setæ, third interval flat or feebly elevated, bearing a small tuft of prostrate whitish hairs behind the middle. Lower surface moderately coarsely, densely and nearly uniformly punctate, the punctures growing a little finer but not denser apically. The apex of the fifth abdominal segment somewhat strongly reflexed. Posterior tibiæ without short terminal spurs.

Length. — 6.5–7.5 mm.; width: 2.2–2.8 mm.

Habitat. — Cheyenne and Laramie, Wyo. (H. Soltau); "Wyo."; Colorado.

Type. — No. 9,757, U. S. National Museum.

The natural food plants of the species of *Notaris* occurring in America do not appear to have been positively ascertained, although Mr. F. M. Webster has surmised that *puncticollis* "may breed in the common *Typha latifolia* or cat-tail." He observed this species attacking cabbage on land that had been drained (Insect Life, vol. vii, 1894, p. 206).

Allied European forms such as *Erirhinus festucæ* Hbst., have been observed breeding in the stems of *Scirpus*, and the beetles have been found on Cyperaceæ, especially on *Carex*. The genus favors aquatic vegetation and the beetles are usually found in moist situations.